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I would like to know whether the Corporation Council as such was consulted about this matter?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA DAO:—"No, Sir, they were not consulted."

Report of Ratnasabapathy Mudaliar Committee on the reform of Municipal Administration.

* 53 *Q.*—SRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have examined the report of Ratnasabapathy Mudaliar Committee on the reform of Municipal Administration; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are examining the report and will shortly take a decision on the recommendations of the committee."

Increase in the strength of Personal Assistants to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

* 54 *Q.*—SRI ALEXANDER GNANAMUTTU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether there has been any increase in the number of Personal Assistants to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards from 1948 to 1952, and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"Yes. The number of Personal Assistants to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been increased in recent years—

(1) to cope with the general increase of work in the Inspector's office; and

(2) to attend to work connected with implementation of the provisions of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, and conduct of general elections to Municipal Councils in 1952."

Scales of pay of employees of the Estate offices and the village officers of the abolished zamindaris.

* 55 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMAKRISHNAIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the officials employed in the Estate offices and the village officers of the abolished zamindaris are given the same scales of pay as those allowed to similar officers in Government service; and

(*b*) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"(*a*) & (*b*) It is presumed that by the term 'the officials employed in Estate offices', the hon. Member refers to employees of

estates taken over by Government who have been retained in connexion with the administration of those estates. If they are qualified to hold similar posts under the Government, their pay is fixed in the scales of pay allowed to Government servants holding similar posts. Reduced scales of pay have been fixed for estate employees who do not possess the qualifications prescribed for the corresponding posts in Government service. If, however, in due course the unqualified persons become qualified, their pay will be fixed in the scales of pay applicable to Government servants.

"As regards *village officers*, immediately after an estate is taken over, village officers therein are allowed pay only at the rates of pay applicable to village officers in proprietary areas and at which they were drawing pay when the estate was taken over. In addition, the headman, the karnam and the village menials are paid commission at the rate of 2 per cent, 2 per cent and 1 per cent respectively of the amount of arrears of rent collected by them. After the expiry of one fasli year from the date of the taking over of the estate, their salaries are refixed temporarily, with reference to the land revenue collected under the Estates Abolition Act at the rates admissible to village officers in regular ryotwari villages."

Acquisition of ryotwari lands under the Land Acquisition Act.

* 56 *Q.*—Sri C. RAJESWARA RAO (on behalf of Janab Syed Mahaboob): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have acquired any ryotwari lands under the Land Acquisition Act; and

(*b*) if so, the amount of compensation paid to the ryots concerned?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) Compensation as determined under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act is paid to the ryots concerned."

Reduction in the number of holidays for the High Court.

* 57 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN (on behalf of Sri V. Gurunandan Row): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to reduce the number of holidays for the High Court and if so, the present stage of the proposal?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"The matter is under correspondence with the Government of India and their decision is awaited."